

Remarks

Formalities:

Claim Status

Claims 32-36 and 39 remain pending in the present application. Claims 1-31, 37, 38 and 40-47 have been canceled without prejudice to the subject matter recited therein. We expressly traverse the outstanding rejection and reserve the right to file one or more continuing applications presenting these claims.

Copied Claims Modified:

Claim scope of the remaining copied claims has changed such that an interference is no longer deemed appropriate.

Many of these changes are intended to broaden the scope of the claims. For example, we have changed the term “affine geometric distortion” to “geometric distortion” (claim 32) and just “distortion” (claim 34). Many of the other changes further broaden the scope of these claims, e.g., through the deletion of previously recited claim features.

Of course, we reserve the right to file one or more continuation applications presenting the more narrow, originally filed, copied claims.

Rejections

Claims 32-36 and 39 stand rejected as failing to comply with the written description requirement as set forth in 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. We respectfully traverse this rejection. Written description support for the pending independent claims is shown in the following tables. Of course, the tables are not an exhaustive listing, as additional support can be found in other application areas as well. Thus, the listed passages should not be viewed as limiting.

Table 1: Claim 32

Claim Elements	Specification Support
A method for extracting a watermark from data containing a watermark comprising:	See, e.g., page 97, lines 15-24. See also the many decoding sections, e.g., page 20, line 1 et seq.; page 39, et seq., etc.
receiving data containing a watermark, which data has been subjected to geometric distortion;	See, e.g., discussion of compensating for geometric distortion, e.g., at page 48, line 6 et seq.; page 76, line 17, et seq.; and Appendix A and Appendix C.
spatially translating the data to compensate for geometric distortion;	See, e.g., page 97, lines 15-24. See also discussion of compensating for geometric distortion, e.g., at page 76, line 17, et seq.; page 76, lines 32-35, page 77, lines 1-15, etc., and Appendix C.
performing a transformation of the data; and	See, e.g., page 97, lines 15-24. See Fig. 29A; page 97, lines 15-24; page 76, line 17, et seq., etc.
extracting the watermark from the translated data.	See, e.g., page 97, lines 15-24. See also the many decoding sections, e.g., page 20, line 1 et seq.; page 39, et seq., etc.

Table 2: Claim 34

Claim Elements	Specification Support
A method for extracting a watermark from data containing a watermark comprising:	See, e.g., page 97, lines 15-24. See also the many decoding sections, e.g., page 20, line 1 et seq.; page 39, et seq., etc.
receiving data containing a watermark, which data has been subjected to distortion;	See, e.g., discussion of compensating for geometric distortion, e.g., at page 48, line 6 et seq.; page 76, line 17, et seq.; and Appendix A and Appendix C.
with reference to a steganographically hidden component, determining characteristics of the distortion;	See, e.g., page 97, lines 15-24, and Fig. 29A; see also the discussion of compensating for geometric distortion, e.g., at page 76, line 17, et seq.; page 76, lines 32-35, page 77, lines 1-15, etc., and Appendix C.
adjusting the data to compensate for the distortion; and	See, e.g., page 97, lines 15-24, and Fig. 29A, see also, e.g., page 48, line 1 et seq.; page 76, line 17, et seq., etc.
extracting the watermark from compensated and accumulated blocks of data.	See, e.g., page 97, lines 15-24. See also the many decoding sections, e.g., page 20, line 1 et seq.; page 39, et seq., etc.

Table 3: Claim 39

Claim Elements	Specification Support
A method of extracting a watermark from compressed data containing a watermark comprising:	See, e.g., page 97, lines 15-24. See also the many decoding sections, e.g., page 20, line 1 et seq.; page 39, et seq., etc.
receiving compressed data containing a watermark in the form of n by n blocks, which data has been subjected to geometric distortion;	See discussion of compensating for geometric distortion, e.g., at page 48, line 6 et seq.; page 76, line 17, et seq.; and Appendix A and Appendix C.
transforming the data;	See, e.g., page 97, lines 15-24. See also discussion of compensating for geometric distortion, e.g., at page 76, line 17, et seq.; and Appendix C.
adjusting the transformed data to compensate for the affine geometric distortion based on characteristics of an orientation component associated with the watermark; and	See, e.g., page 48, line 1 et seq.; page 97, lines 15-24 and Fig. 29A; page 76, line 17, et seq., etc.
extracting the watermark from the adjusted data.	See, e.g., page 97, lines 15-24. See also the many decoding sections, e.g., page 20, line 1 et seq.; page 39, et seq., etc.

Request for Reconsideration

We respectfully submit that the application provides ample written disclosure for the pending claims. And we respectfully request reconsideration.

Conclusion:

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Nevertheless, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned at 503-469-4685 with any questions.

Date: December 21, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "St SL" with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Steven W. Stewart

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